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## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES THE AWARD OF A \$50,000 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANT

**ABILENE, TEXAS, January 26, 2006**—USDA Rural Development State Director, Bryan Daniel, today announced the award of a \$50,000 Solid Waste Management Grant to the West Central Texas Council of Governments. Funds will be used to provide technical assistance to rural Texas communities and school districts on natural recycling in an effort to decrease non-point source pollution. The grantee will provide technical assistance by teaching the methods to setting up and maintaining a mulching/non-point source pollution prevention program.

"USDA Rural Development is delighted to assist the West Central Texas Council of Governments with financial assistance for this project," said Daniel. "Providing technical assistance and training in an effort to reduce or eliminate water pollution in rural Texas is beneficial to everyone."

USDA Rural Development Solid Waste Management Grants are available to non-profit corporations and public bodies serving rural areas with a population of 10,000 or less. The funds can be used to identify and evaluate solutions to solid waste problems related to collection, treatment and disposal on a regional basis.

USDA Rural Development strives to ensure that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, call the Abilene Local Office at 325-690-6162, Extension 4, or visit us on the web at <a href="http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/">http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/</a>.



Pictured (L to R): Wendy Stovall, Natural Resource Coordinator of WCTCOG; Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director; Jim Compton, Executive Director of WCTCOG.